

REMARKS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, Applicant respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and objections of the Office Action dated July 6, 2006.

Summary

Claims 1, 10 and 20 have been amended. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Claims 27 – 29 have been added.

Rejections

35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 1 – 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 – 11, 17 – 20, 22 – 24 and 26 were rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner asserted in the Office Action dated July 6, 2006 that the phrase “about equal to” is indefinite. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The fact that claim language, including terms of degree, may not be precise, does not automatically render the claim indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Seattle Box Co. v. Industrial Crating & Packaging, Inc., 731 F.2d 818, 221 USPQ 568 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Acceptability of the claim language depends on whether one of ordinary skill in the art would understand what is claimed, in light of the specification. MPEP 2173.05(b).

Applicant respectfully submits that one of ordinary skill would understand the term “about equal to,” in light of the “content of the particular application disclosure.”

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3 – 4, 6 – 8, 10, 12 -13, 15, 17 – 21 and 24 – 25 were rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katou et al. (JP08-191256; “Katou”) in view of Kennedy (US Patent No. 5,140,700). Claims 5 and 9

were rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katou in view of Kennedy and Satoh et al. (US Publication No. 2002/0137471; "Satoh"). Claims 2, 11 and 23 were rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katou in view of Kennedy and Khanna (US Patent No. 4,649,354). Claims 14 and 16 were rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katou in view of Kennedy and Brand et al. (US Patent No. 5,901,057). Claims 22 and 26 were rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katou in view of Kennedy and Newman, Jr. (US Patent No. 5,224,029; "Newman").

Claim 1 recites a transmission-and-receiving switching circuit comprising, *inter alia*, an inductor element for feeding the first switching diode. The inductor element for feeding the first switching diode is arranged to serve as a high-impedance element at the transmission frequency and prevents the transmission signal from attenuating.

As indicated in the Office Action dated July 6, 2006, "Katou et al. do not expressly disclose wherein the first resonant circuit prevents the transmission signal from attenuating." (Page 6 of Office Action dated July 6, 2006). Thus, Katou fails to disclose or suggest the inductor element for feeding the first switching diode is arranged to serve as a high-impedance element at the transmission frequency and prevents the transmission signal from attenuating. Accordingly, Claim 1 is allowable over Katou.

Kennedy fails to disclose the inductor element for feeding the first switching diode is arranged to serve as a high-impedance element at the transmission frequency. In fact, Kennedy suggests a contrary arrangement. Kennedy teaches "a band-pass filter having a resonant circuit." (Column 2, Lines 8 – 9). Kennedy suggests that the band-pass filter "acts as a low impedance at AM frequencies." (Column 2, Lines 5 – 7). Thus, an inductor element for feeding the first switching diode arranged to serve as a high-impedance element at the transmission frequency would not have been obvious to one skilled in the art, in light of Kennedy. Accordingly, Claim 1 is allowable over the cited prior art.

Dependent Claims 2 – 9 depend from allowable Claim 1, so are allowable for at least this reason.

Independent Claims 10 and 20 recite features that are similar to the distinguishable features recited in Claim 1. Accordingly, Claims 10 and 20 are allowable over the cited prior art.

Dependent Claims 11 – 19 depend from allowable Claim 10, so are allowable for at least this reason. Dependent Claims 21 – 26 depend from allowable Claim 20, so are allowable for at least this reason.

New Claims

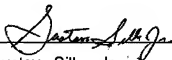
Claims 27 – 29 have been added. Support for the added claims can be found on page 13 at line 25 of the originally filed patent application. Claims 27 – 29 depend from allowable base claims and are allowable for at least this reason. Further limitations of the dependent claims are allowable over the cited art. For example, the cited prior art fails to disclose a series resonant frequency that is within about 5-10% of a local oscillation frequency as recited in Claims 27 – 29. Accordingly, Claims 27 – 29 are allowable over the cited prior art.

Conclusion

For at least the reasons presented above, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gustavo Siller, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

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